

Book Reviews

THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL DIRECTOR OF THE CINCINNATI SANITARIUM. By F. W. LANGDON, M.D. The Poundford Sta. Co., Cincinnati, O.

This report covers the year ending Nov. 30, 1904, and shows a gratifying degree of progress in this well-known institution. An increase in admissions of 32 per cent., a record of cures of 44 per cent., the installation of a modern card index system in the keeping of clinical records, a complete new clinical laboratory, additional equipments in the medical department and in matters pertaining to the comfort and amusement of the patients, together with plans for a considerable increase in the capacity of the buildings, are some of the features noted in this report.

GOODALE.

DIE HYSTERISCHEN GEISTESSTÖRUNGEN. EINE KLINISCHE STUDIE. Von Dr. Emil Raimann, Assistant der k.k. Psychiatrischen und Nerven-klinik des Herrn. Professor v. Wagner in Wien. Franz Deuticke. Leipzig und Wien.

At the present time it has become more or less fashionable to designate hysteria as a psychosis. In this general opinion the authors concur, but it is not a study of the psychotic elements of hysteria that Raimann has considered the subject of hysterical insanity in this monograph, almost the only monographic treatment of the subject extant. He would discuss the more specific insanities having their origin in a hysterical basis. In introducing his study he deals first with the "hysterical character," which has its foundation essentially in a psychopathological heredity, or at times the hysterical personality develops in good stock as a result of head and brain traumata, physical and psychical, in tender years or during adolescence. The type of inducing traumata are worthy of exact observations in this group of cases, and Raimann has laid an excellent groundwork here for further collaboration.

Following many of the French writers, the author finds "suggestibility" as a dominant psychogenic factor. He essays at some length an analysis of the psychological state of suggestibility, but offers little not covered by Sollier, Janet, Raymond and modern French writers.

The clinical differentiation and description of type of hysterical insane states is most fully treated, particularly the analysis of the hysterical dream states. The analogies and contrasts with various catatonic states are illuminating, and serve as useful reminders that many of the conditions diagnosed as catatonic forms of dementia præcox are in reality more allied with the hysterical states so well dealt with in this volume and in Janet's "Neuroses and Fixed Ideas."

In commenting on the chronic types of hysterical insanity the author says that, as a rule, dementia does not take place. In many instances a pseudo-dementia is apparent, and it may be further borne in mind that the hysterical character very frequently develops on the groundwork of a slightly enfeebled mind which dates from childhood.

The etiology of the hysterical "anlage" is dealt with in Chapter IV. The Semitic race seems to show a marked predisposition. The Vienna statistics show that women are more often affected than men, the figures showing that proportionately more men are involved in Austria than in Germany, but not so many as in France. Raimann would seek to controvert Freud's teachings concerning the preponderating influence of sexual influences as causative of the condition. In a complete and most convincing summary the well-known effects of the sexual cycles on the mental state are discussed, but the author contends that, while alterations in

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personality dependent on the sexual functioning, undoubtedly occur, such do not constitute efficient causes for the condition.

Further chapters deal with the Origin of Hysteria, Differential Diagnosis, Prognosis, Therapeutics and Forensic Aspects. A full bibliography is appended.

The work is well worthy a place on the shelves of the student of nervous disorders, be the interests mainly neurological or psychiatric. It is a painstaking and thorough study, differing from most works on the general subject in the psychiatric view-point. JELLIFFE.

News and Notes

SUMMER REMOVAL OF DR. SMITH.—On June 29, Dr. E. E. Smith of South Wilton removes from Kensett, his establishment in Norwalk, Conn., to his summer establishment on Sugar Hill among the mountains of New Hampshire. The removal will be made in a private car attached to the White Mountain Express. This is the tenth year in which this removal has been made, and he has found it of much benefit to his patients. He can receive a limited number of nervous invalids for "a summer in the hills" under experienced medical supervision during the months of July, August and September.

CHANGES IN NEW YORK STATE COMMISSION IN LUNACY SERVICE.

Manhattan State Hospital, East.—James M. Parkinsan, Junior Physician, resignation April 30, 1905, \$900 per year.

Manhattan State Hospital, Central Islip.—Calvin B. West, Assistant Physician, promotion May 1, 1905, \$83.33 to \$100 per month.

Frank Hinkley, Assistant Physician, promotion April 1, 1905, \$83.33 to \$100 per month.

Alice M. F. Leader, Woman Physician, promotion April 1, 1905, \$100 to \$108.33 per month.

Kittie Rose Owen, Woman Physician, promotion April 1, 1905, \$91.66 to \$100 per month.

Fred E. Lettice, Junior Physician, appointment April 3, 1905, \$75 per month.

Rochester State Hospital.—Ruth Demarest, Medical Intern, reinstatement May 1, 1905, \$50 per month.

APPOINTMENT OF DR. NORBURY.—Frank Parsons Norbury, A.M., M.D., editor of the *Medical Fortnightly* and Medical Superintendent of Maplewood Sanatorium, Jacksonville, Illinois, has accepted the Chair of Nervous and Mental Diseases, Keokuk Medical College.

POEMS OF TH. MEYNERT.—It is announced that Braumüller, of Vienna, will shortly publish a volume of poems of the well-known neurologist Th. Meynert.

FOREIGN APPOINTMENTS.—Professor Dr. Aschaffenburg, of Halle, has been appointed as Docent in Psychiatry at the Academy of Practical Medicine at Cologne.

Dr. Paul Schroeder has been appointed Privat Docent in neurology and psychiatry at Breslau.

Dr. Paul Garnier has recently died in Paris.

Dr. J. A. Peters, the Director of the Insane Colony at Gheel, has had the Order of Orange Nassau conferred upon him.